Greenfield, December [illegible] 1862

My dear Mr Macy

I duly received your fine long letter of twelve pages, chiefly consisting of comments on Mr Carnes lecture, and when I had read the whole I went to Mr C. himself to read it to him. He listen about ten minutes walk from my office in town. We read & talked it over together and he seemed so much struck by what you said that he feared your letter the unusual confinement of writing a good deal to them to some of his friends. For the last two years I have been on intimate terms with him on account of the interest he has taken in the anti Slavery cause and the facilities I have had for supplying him with books, pamphlets & information. Some time ~~ago~~ lately when remarking on Mr Lincoln's success his English critics have laid in pointing out mistakes in his books, he attributed his good fortune in this respect to his having had no education to his elbow, and my being acquainted with many minute matters about books & authors which he was comparatively unacquainted with. It has been a real pleasure to me to find myself useful in any way to such a man.

He was struck with your observation of the beauty of Ewes eating and the fluency and power of Ewes language in such a long familiar letter - which though long, did not contain a word too much.

If I know myself I have no inducement to favor England, Irish, or American unduly in my judgment

[redacted] defence if any of them. From a
feeling of prejudice against the act. Whether if
we had in England & in Ireland you would not
attribute as you do to actual disloyalty the mistaken
that public opinion here has made in judging of
American affairs. I was struck with a remark
I saw today attributed to the Duke of Wellington
- that all wars are a series of blunders. Much more
and more frequently are ill judgements by individuals
of nations a series of blunders. In this respect the
statements that in case of war we can actually unite
those whom we should respect if we had any means
of becoming acquainted with them. Possibly I cannot
fully agree with you that to ignorance rather than to
wilful perversity is to be attributed the greater part of
the misdirection which public opinion here has taken.
The truth has been far more uncertain in battling towards
them case than the truth has been. The real ~~affair~~
of the Maine Tariff (which can be very well explained
by Americans in a sense unfavorable to us) were
generally believed to be indications of a hostile feeling
towards England. They happened unfortunately to say
the least. I should not take high ground
but am amazed that a really intelligent people
should have been so readily induced to give their
sympathy to Hawkshaw. I have repeatedly declared
that ~~the~~ intelligent Americans had little belief in the
truth of the representation of these islands - their feelings
were ~~and~~ are merely sentimentally anti slavery. I
even wish I knew that they were ~~[illegible]~~ that way with
over me. For very many years I have taken pains
to claim no higher attainment for them than
this. When I refer to one of your printed remarks
upon Carnes Letters as hasty I said that "no person

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were found. I meant not protestant professors in Ireland & the papers generally in England & Scotland. The Irish catholics are detested generally good material for the worst class of infidels, Aboritionists, & enemies of American democracy. I think if I had the letter before me with the latest news from the Confederate States, I could readily show from it & the admissions of their papers alone, enough to make you admit, that it requires a very thorough & very enlightened knowledge of American affairs to foretell any body, here from Europe, an intensely unfavorable estimate of the Northern Government & people, & their inherent tendencies to slavery, such subserviency to traitors, such multitudes of traitors, such open avowal of hostility to the Flag & Constitution of their adoption such readiness to put their enemies into offices of trust & to discourage any friends, that entire want of fairness & humanity towards the Confederacy. I know that there is a class of explaining all these things in the interest of the Union with an eye to this as a market abroad. But our people don't generally care a straw for the Union whilst the power is entirely held by traitors that the task is to reclaim & to maintain that they & the States would throw away & gladly take back the Slave code upon them any guarantees they chose to ask for, provided only this Union could be maintained. Indeed the same mail which brought me your letter, brought me from a very intelligent educated Gentleman long settled in New York an avowal that the gradual extinguishment of slavery should (would be fixed from the independent South) would be preferable to peace on Confederate by a North hostile to the Negro & when the South & unwilling to maintain them on such terms.

But indeed I am only beating the air. A very short opportunity is deemed sufficient but I should be loth to waste any quantity of my best writing and clearest composition.

Mr Lawrence also maintains that if you ground before an ass all used to cool in our parts neither the taste of the tooth - and that if beasts are fitted out in England for the trade, to avoid loads of superfluous provender no much greater quantity to the teeth. We are heated & then drove out Saturday for sixty five demand that we shall be entirely on your side. You make no allowance for the fact that in consequence of the rapidity your blockade our factory operatives are in a state of great suffering; & property benevolence is taxed to the utmost of endurance to keep them from starvation; and their sufferers prefer that the blockade should be continued rather than Slavery should triumph.

Suppose England had intervened with action half a year later when the Battle of Bull Run & then she had probability that Slavery would by that time have been so much weakened as it is at present? Has not every step taken towards emancipation to the present been based upon the sufferings people by bitter sufferers - & would anything but suffering have availed to free matters to their present position? I am sure I think so. The North has suffered in every way peculiarly by her complicity with Slavery - and it is the sufferers were unbearable to compel the steps that have been taken by Mr Lincoln & his advisers.

I find that Mr Curran also agrees with me that
your succeeding indignation against the English
people generally because you find they are not
as high minded as you fancied them, must be
based in misplaced - since it is not reasonable
to expect any nation to act constantly & habitually
from elevated motives. The first man of man-
kind are selfish & unprincipled. Probably the
people of the free States are no exception. If they
succeed in abolishing slavery it will be not because
they intended any ~~to~~ subversion of the rights, but
because they have been compelled to it from the
necessity of self preservation.

I am sorry to hear, with you, that
hostilities are commenced - but I may be less despairing
than you are, for I am certainly a little wiser of
late than the difficulties can be ~~are~~ more than can
be settled finally. As I have already hinted
I constantly see, & more & more, the powerful
powerful impediments in the way of emancipation
suffered in behalf of the unhesitated ~~&~~ demand
which would not be chastely, indeed they appear
extremely in hands of English Lords
I know that you have many friends here than
you think of - but the Lord Mayor, the Man-
chester Examiner, the Broad Observer, the
Daily Express & Freeman Journal constantly
contain the articles in the Northern Lib - &
Curious how often I see, the Northern Cause
is more indebted to the writers in the Daily News
than to any other half dozen in the three kingdoms.
In that we are brought blunderers, ignorant, such
as we ought to be - but we are not entirely despised.

They too Alford went to Mr Cannon today & spent some hours analyzing the American Century in order to test the truth of some inferences drawn by an American Lecturer favorable to the confederate declarations of the South with a view to show that there are no moral duties there. They talked on other matters besides. The intents that to prevent the importation of Saltpeter from Saltpeter South or South could be embodied without establishing a Penal institution for the purpose but that if it came to the case of the American Invented that Shipped it was wise policy not to let it pass to the South, it would be the duty of our Government to interfere. Call to the attention that the slavery would be more effectually abolished by letting the South go, he says the South don't thank to hear they are the best judges. If they thought so they would not be so eager for secession. Did I tell you that he is preparing a new edition of his books and the reason he is taking to enforce his positions is so good that he has come in here repeatedly with the last few days complaining of a terribly headache. I the Jewish Ministers has a book of sympathy with the poor southern fighting for their independence — he wishes the South would let the North of the Potomac & east of the Mississippi go in peace — but how can the South to be confined to the east of the great rivers if they are not thoroughly beaten? This is a mystery which he has not unravelled.

Thursday we sent off 25 Allen Brown is a teacher devoted to this cause of S. Abraham Lincoln to be Commended. All you can do to help them pass the charge other pay me for Letters whatever you can afford.

7/

I hope the time may come when Miss Brown
... have title to frequent mention of the heroic
theme people — as those of martyrs have been in the
Seventeenth Century succeed those that history
stored them. I should say that I read all your
letters you refer to. I have also to thank Miss
Brown for the whereabouts of her letter first. Afterwards
dear when death by the advent of an unasked visitor
who has interests friend, I applied to a German
friend Frau Dr. Wicked in Dublin who by the
help of a certain de Vesci and the information he
received & the loan of diaries had &c. has
produced an excellent volume which nobody
could mistake. The correspondence is not as natural
as could be desired but her talent is subservient
to the whole result. She has been very ill in and
letter drawing room. a poor substitute for the
dear original. In the course of this her letter
letter making to the collection I took intensely much
to heart — but I have many times of bitter lamen-
tation for which I had to stifle grief as
I had can hear to hear. Good — and as to what
is to happen there nobody can take any of us.
There was possibly to be record this book forward with
a hopeful heart to a blessed Reunion — Such hopes
are always mingled with doubt & dark fears of
unworthiness in my meditations as far as I am
myself concerned. I have known many good &
holy good women — but I never knew one for
such another love — with such natural gifts, and
a heart so grateful, so humble & so good. A
short time before we lost her her death was so serene-
fected. It seemed as if the light [illegible] away from her

It seems to me that the Establishments people have been so accustomed to judge men by the test of principle and have had so little to encourage them - that they are blinded whenever they hear others beside them are competent to that same test, & so greatly disappointed. They have endeavoured to represent protest, pushed the Protestant people on their way - whereas I suppose the people are neither at much better than other nations as they take credit for, but do much worse than others as we suppose them. Perhaps in writing to you I have been in my dreams than you would have the kindness to overlook & for which I am heartily sorry.

With my kindest regards & thanks to Mr Edwards & Mary in which it. I remain Mary Lately engaged having now had not time to give thanks before sending this letter.

My eldest Daughter (Deborah) who is constitutionally delicate was overworked in attending on her mother & was prostrated for a short time after. She is now as well as ever & is staying with Edward Weeks at the seaside in the Atlantic coast of Ireland. My second daughter Mary is here. They are both most desirous to take charge of Edward & Mary for a few days. They are both paying great attention to their education & are their constant companion & dearest friend. With regard to matters any alteration will be made this year as usual. I hear nothing of Mr Rose since here. When will you have another pamphlet which I hope Chalk's pamphlet will clear Lately which I sent by post. I will be glad to hear

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I kept a few copies in reserve having forwarded 50 under cover to the address in Boston. But I find there is a rule that only 1 shd be in each cover whereas I sent two – & then some may have gone. I do so to save postage. However lest the disaster shd have happened I send by todays Post 6 more in order that you may not be left without any. I hope you have read & copied into the Acts of Harvey before you could read the admirable letter of Knight Lawson in the Daily News of the 25th. I wished in vain seeing it & I could have forwarded the papers.

I thank you the heavy Cannon is taking you may be sure your letter will not be lost. I have already seen you thanks in terms of high Manuscript extracts for 2nd edition – with Hundred regards to all your family I am ever truly yours

Richd Blunt

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